

TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

National Centre of the Government of India for Nuclear Science and Mathematics

Bangalore Centre:

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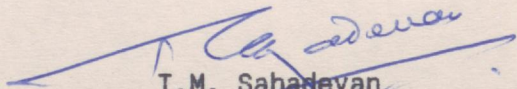
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March 21, 1994

Prof. B. V. Sreekantan

I am sending herewith a copy of letter that we sent to Mr. S. K. Das, Secretary to the Chief Minister. Prof. G. Swarup and I met the Secretary to the Chief Minister on Wednesday, March 9, 1994. Mr. Das ^{engineer} suggested if there is somebody who could talk to the Chief Minister directly about this to which we replied in the negative.


T.M. Sahadevan
Administrative Officer

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National Centre for Biological Sciences

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March 9, 1994

Mr.S.K.Das
Secretary to the Chief Minister
Govt. of Karnataka
Vidhana Soudha
Bangalore.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Prof.G.Swarup, F.R.S. - request for allotment of site in Bangalore
in view of his eminence

Prof.Govind Swarup, F.R.S. Director of the National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (of TIFR) Pune and Project Director of the Giant Metre Wave Radio Telescope (GMRT) Project had applied for a site through the NTI Society when he was in Bangalore.. Prof.Swarup has been in charge of the Radio Astronomy Group at Bangalore since its inception in 1978 and had made Bangalore the headquarters for the Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope project to be located near Gouribidanur. However, the site had to be moved to Narayangaon, 80 Kms. north of Pune due to certain technical reasons and Prof.Swarup had to move to Pune along with other scientists in 1989 in order to complete the Telescope Project. GMRT is the largest project for pure science ever undertaken in the country with an outlay of Rs.45 crores.

Prof.Swarup is a very eminent scientist having conceived, designed and operated the first largest Radio Telescope in India in the late 60s and built a very strong group of scientists and engineers around him. The present telescope project which has moved to Pune has been possible only because of his untiring work and dedication. The GMR Telescope when completed will be the largest in the world at Metrewavelengths. It is spread over a 25 Km area with 30 antennas each of 45 meter dia and uses state of the art computers, electronics, optical fibre links, etc. for data acquisition and analysis.

Prof.Swarup takes great pride in being an Indian and thing Indian. He has indigenised several components of the Telescope at Ooty and now at Poona. He and his group not only design and build such large state of the art equipments, but also use them for research which have led to important discoveries in the field. His efforts with building the Ooty Radio Telescope indigenously resulted in the birth of antenna industry in the country and this group was subsequently transferred to ECIL which has built antennas worth over 100 crores during the last 20 years. In early 70s, when the Videsh Sanchar Nigam decided to import antennas for their overseas communication service, it was Dr.Swarup who intervened and had the antennas built indigenously as he was fresh from his experience of building large antennas for the Ooty Radio Telescope.

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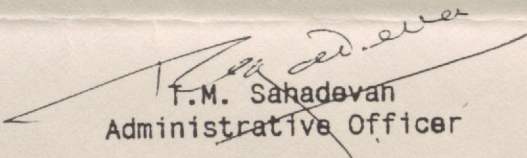
He is recipient of several medals and honours, notable among them being (1) Padmashri - 1972 and (2) Fellow of the Royal Society - 1990. A partial list of honours and awards is attached.

Prof.Swarup will complete 65 years in May, 1994. But for his commitment to building the Giant Metrewave Ratio Telescope, he would have returned to Bangalore. However, the telescope project is bound to keep him in Pune for atleast the next 2-3 years. His being in Bangalore will add to the already lively scientific environment in the area.

We are writing this to you to consider Prof.Swarup for allotment of a site in Bangalore under the "eminent scientists" category. As indicated earlier, he has applied for a site in the NTI society and it is due for allotment in the next few months. Therefore, the Govt. may decide to advise the NTI Society to allot a site to him though he may not fulfill the norms for domicile.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



F.M. Sahadevan
Administrative Officer

TMS/vss

Partial List of awards and honours received by Prof.G.Swarup

1. Padmashri - 1972
2. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award - 1973
3. Jawaharlal Nehru Fellow - 1974
4. P.C.Mahalanobis Medal - 1984
5. Biren Roy Trust Medal - 1986
6. Vainu Bappu Memorial Award - 1987
7. Tsaolovosky Medal of the Federation of Cosmonautics, USSR - 1987
8. Meghnad Saha Medal - 1987
9. Doctor of Engg. (Honoris Causa) Univ. of Roorke - 1987
10. Fellow of the Third World Academy of Sciences (in Physics) - 1988
11. Fellow of the Royal Society - 1990
12. International Union of Radio Sciences - John Howard Delinger
Gold Medal - 1990
13. R.D.Birla Award - 1990
14. FIE Foundation Award - 1991
15. Gujarmal Modi Science Award - 1993
16. C.V.Raman Medal, INSA - 1993
17. Sir Devaprasad Sarbhadhikari Medal of Calcutta University - 1994

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